

**ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

Danger from pricks by contaminated hypodermic needles is reduced by the configuring of a family of single diameter and multiple diameter syringes that accommodate conventional hypodermic needles but also a variety of universal needle-based guards, shields, and safety needles. The family of syringes has as a common property among all the members of the family -- a standardized diameter of that portion of the syringe barrel adjacent the needle. The portion of the syringe barrels in the family having the standardized diameter can accommodate universal safety needles regardless of the volume of the syringe.